

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-12

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INRE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO RUEHVXXSECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0834

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY

DIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT PFOR CY TU

SUBJ: ECEVIT'S SPEECH IN NICOSIA

REF: A. NICOSIA 0017; B. FBIS TA 031445

1. SUMMARY: RPP LEADER BULENT ECEVIT ADDRESSED LARGEST CROWD IN TURKISH CYPRIOT HISTORY JANUARY 3 IN NICOSIA. SPEECH COVERED MANY OF THE SAME THEMES EARLIER EXPOUNDED IN FAMAGUSTA AND KYRENIA (NICOSIA 0017). ECEVIT OBVIOUSLY CAME PREPARED TO DELIVER HARD LINE MESSAGE TO BOTH GREEK CYPRIOTS AND HIS DOMESTIC OPPONENTS ON THE MAINLAND. COMPROMISE WILL NOW BE MORE DIFFICULT. END SUMMARY.

2. IN NICOSIA SPEECH, ECEVIT DENIED THAT MAKARIOS PRESIDENCY HAS ANY LEGAL BASIS. SAID INTERNATIONAL RESOLUTIONS AND AGREEMENTS NOW RECOGNIZE THAT THERE ARE TWO SEPARATE COMMUNITIES ON ISLAND WITH TWO SEPARATE ADMINISTRATIONS. CLAIMED TURKS WOULD NOT BE RESPONSIBLE IF INTERNAL DISSENSION IN GREEK COMMUNITY

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DELAYED PROGRESS OF NEGOTIATIONS. WHATEVER THE OUTCOME OF INTRA GREEK WRANGLING, NEW SITUATION CREATED BY PEACE OPERATION WOULD NOT TURN AGAINST TURKS.

3. ECEVIT REITERATED THAT TURKEY WOULD NOT ABANDON ITS GUARANTOR ROLE NOR WOULD IT ACCEPT "ARTIFICIAL INCREASE" IN NUMBER OF GUARANTOR POWERS. SAID TURKISONLY BE CHANGED IF HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY CHANGED FIRST.

4. ON NEGOTIATIONS, ECEVIT STATED FLATLY THAT IMPORTANT ISSUES CANNOT BE ADDRESSED UNTIL TURKISH CYPRIOTS IN THE SOUTH, INCLUDING WSBA, ARE RELEASED FROM FORCIBLE DETENTION. ECEVIT INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT DENKTASH AND CLERIDES COULD CONTINUE TO ADDRESS "HUMANITARIAN ISSUES", PENDING RESOLUTION OF REFUGEE PROBLEM.

5. USING SAME EMOTIVE RHETORIC AS PREVIOUS DAY, ECEVIT DECLARED THAT FUTURE STATUS OF CYPRUS HAS BEEN INSCRIBED IN ISLAND'S SOIL THROUGH EXPENDITURE OF BLOOD AND LIFE. HE DECLARED THIS CAN NEVER BE ERASED. REALITY, HE CONCLUDED, IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN AGREEMENTS OR CONSTITUTIONS -- WHICH CAN BE TORN UP.

6. AT END OF SPEECH, ECEVIT EXPANDED ON NEED FOR TURKISH CYPRIOTS TO DEVELOP LAND WON IN FIGHTING. HE LECTURED LOCALS TO EFFECT THAT TERRITORY CAN ONLY BE OWNED THROUGH LABOR AND THAT ITS VALUE IS PROPORTIONAL TO "SWEAT POURED INTO IT". IN WHAT MANY REGARDED AS INDIRECT SLAP AT VICE PRESIDENT DENKTASH, ECEVIT STRESSED THAT DEVELOPMENT CAN ONLY TAKE PLACE WHEN PEOPLE FREE TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS AND ORDER BASED ON JUSTICE AND HUMANITARIANISM.

7. COMMENT: EMBOFFS WERE PRESENT AT ECEVIT'S SPEECH. HUGH CROWD EXTREMELY ENTHUSIASTIC. ECEVIT WAS REPEATEDLY INTERRUPTED BY APPLAUSE AND CHANTS WHICH SEEMED TO BE SPONTANEOUS OUTPOURINGS OF EMOTION. FORMER FONMIN GUNESH ALSO SHARED CROWD'S ADULATION. APPLAUSE FOR DENKTASH WAS MUCH LESS VIGOROUS. FOLLOWING SPEECH, ECEVIT PLANNED TO MEET AT LENGTH WITH VICE PRESIDENT'S CRITICS AND ORDINARY CITIZENS. DENKTASH'S LEGISLATIVE OPPONENTS HAVE PROMISED DELIVER WRITTEN DOCUMENT TO ECEVIT BEFORE HE DEPARTS ISLAND. FORMER TURKISH PRIME MINISTER HAS NO OTHER MAJOR ADDRESSES PLANNED ON CYPRUS.

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8. EMBASSY COMMENTS ON EFFECT OF ECEVIT'S VISIT WILL BE TRANSMITTED FOLLOWING FORMER PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTURE.
BROWN

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